

Message

From: Nicholas, Sara [snicholas@pa.gov]
Sent: 10/29/2018 9:41:32 PM
To: Edward, James [edward.james@epa.gov]; Power, Lucinda [power.lucinda@epa.gov]
CC: Dunn, Cindy Adams [cindydunn@pa.gov]; Keefer, Matthew [makeefer@pa.gov]; Stark, Teddi [c-tstark@pa.gov]; ODonnell, Kelly [kelodonnell@pa.gov]; Shirley, Jessica [jessshirley@pa.gov]; Smith, Erin [serin@pa.gov]; Kasi, Veronica [vbkasi@pa.gov]
Subject: FW: Release of \$20 million CRP funds for buffers
Attachments: FSA Apportionment of 20M.PNG; 09.26.17 PA Gov- DCNR - USDA Funding Letter to Sec. Perdue (1).pdf; 02142018 PA letter to USDA re CREP funding.pdf; Northey memo-Aug 3 .docx

Jim and Lucinda,

DCNR Secretary Cindy Adams Dunn would like to raise two issues to your attention, as discussed at the October 12, 2018 Principals Staff Committee (PSC) Meeting, in anticipation of the upcoming November 20 EPA meeting with our Federal agency partners on our expectations for them in the development and implementation of the jurisdictions' Phase III Watershed Implementation Plans (WIPs).

The first is a petition to the USDA to release \$20 million in stranded 2016 FSA apportionment funds that could augment Pennsylvania's available funding to implement additional riparian forested buffers and help the Commonwealth meet its Chesapeake Bay goals of planting 80,000 new buffer acres by 2025. Attachments above and the email below coordinating with USDA Under Secretary Bill Northey through Jamie Clove-Adams describe this issue in more detail.

A second and related effort we would like to raise with federal partners is their participation, as land owners and managers, in the general effort to plant more buffers in the approximately 50% of Pennsylvania that lies within the Chesapeake Bay watershed, where many federal installations, national parks, and other federally owned and managed lands are located. DCNR has embarked on its own mission to lead by example by inventorying and addressing the farmed/leased acres it manages as part of its state parks by installing riparian forest buffers where they are lacking along streams and rivers.

Federal landowners in Pennsylvania could do the same on federally owned and managed lands in the Bay watershed of the Commonwealth. There are 19 national parks, scenic trails and heritage sites in our state, including many within the Bay watershed; several federal military installations and Army Corps of Engineers administered lands, including Letterkenny Depot, Raystown Lake, and several jointly operated with DCNR state parks (Bald Eagle, Beltzville) that could do more with Army Corps cost-sharing efforts; and other federal installations that could be improved with riparian buffers or other natural-resource restorations. Because many of these sites are visited so often by the public, they would make ideal sites to include signage, wayside exhibits, and to lead by example.

Please let us know if you would like any additional information on these issues. We appreciate the PSC's efforts in conveying our interests.

Sara Nicholas, Director
Office of Policy and Planning
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Phone: (717) 346-7636, Fax: (717) 772-9106
www.dcnr.state.pa.us

From: Nicholas, Sara

Sent: Friday, August 03, 2018 12:45 PM

To: 'Jamie.CloverAdams@osec.usda.gov' <Jamie.CloverAdams@osec.usda.gov>

Cc: Dunn, Cindy Adams <cindydunn@pa.gov>; Redding, Russell <rredding@pa.gov>; ODonnell, Kelly <kelodonnell@pa.gov>; Keefer, Matthew <makeefer@pa.gov>; 'Claggett, Sally -FS' <sclaggett@fs.fed.us>; Kasi, Veronica <vbkasi@pa.gov>; 'Coleman, Denise - NRCS, Harrisburg, PA' <Denise.Coleman@pa.usda.gov>; Groves, Gary - FSA, Harrisburg, PA <Gary.Groves@pa.usda.gov>

Subject: Release of \$20 million CRP funds for buffers

Hello Ms Clover-Adams,

On behalf of Pennsylvania DCNR Sec. Cindy Adams Dunn and Agriculture Sec. Russell Redding, I am sending an updated memo reflecting the issues we discussed with you two weeks ago on a conference call, as well as support letters from PA Gov. Tom Wolf and the PA Congressional delegation, and a screen shot of the budget item in question. We understand you had similar conversations with a delegation from Virginia, and wanted you to have our latest information before the Chesapeake Bay Executive Council meeting on Tuesday. Please let us know if you or Under Secretary Bill Northey have any questions, concerns, or require more information. We appreciate your help on this issue.

Sara Nicholas, Director

Office of Policy and Planning

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